

TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND
Easton Town Hall
14 S. Harrison Street

November 2, 2009

PRESENT AT CONVENING

8 Mayor Robert C. Willey	11 Councilmember Pete Leshner
9 Council President John F. Ford	12 Councilmember Leonard E. Wendowski
10 Councilmember Kelley K. Malone	13 Councilmember Megan M. Cook

IN ATTENDANCE

Also in attendance were the Town Attorney Ms. VanEmburch, Town Manager Mr. Karge, and Town Clerk Ms. Ruf.

CONVENING

At 7:08 p.m., President Ford called the meeting to order.

Mr. Leshner opened the meeting with prayer and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, minutes of the October 19, 2009 meeting were approved with corrections as submitted by Mr. Leshner.

ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY

Mayor Willey discussed a recent meeting with the Chamber of Commerce regarding inspection concerns.

Mayor Willey discussed budget issues and stated that there may be a reforecast from the Comptroller's office in December. He asked Department heads to continue with cost control measures.

Mayor Willey thanked Mr. Leshner and Ms. Malone for their participation in the Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast.

APPOINTMENT OF MR. JAMES BENT TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION FOR A THREE YEAR TERM.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, Mr. Bent's appointment was approved.

ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER

Mr. Karge advised that the Annual Christmas Tree lighting will be in Thompson Park on December 4 with the Christmas parade scheduled for December 5.

Mr. Karge stated that the Council's chambers are set up pursuant to recommendation by the Talbot County Health Department due to the onset of H1N1 flu in the Northeast.

President Ford asked Mr. Karge and the staff to work on a response for Cooke's Hope regarding their request for garbage service.

MRS. LORRAINE GOULD, DIRECTOR OF EASTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPT. AND EASTON LITTLE LEAGUE TO PRESENT PROPOSAL TO COUNCIL REGARDING ANTHONY FIELD AT NORTH EASTON SPORTS COMPLEX.

Mrs. Gould and Mr. Ritchie Wheatley, President of Friends of North Easton Sports Complex discussed a proposal for a field maintenance program funded 100% by Easton Little League for Anthony Field.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, Mr. Wheatley's proposal was accepted.

REQUEST FROM MS. VICTORIA WOOTEN, STORE MANAGER, EASTON WAL-MART TO PLACE TEMPORARY TRAILERS FOR HOLIDAY BUSINESS.

Ms. Susan Lennstrom was present on behalf of the store manager.

Mr. Wendowski asked if there would be any impact to parking. Ms. Lennstrom stated there would be none.

Ms. Lennstrom stated that they would initially place ten trailers not to exceed 22 and would close down December 15 emptying all the trailers by December 25. She stated that the trailer vendor would be asked to pick up the trailers on or near December 25. Ms. Lennstrom stated that they would be placed near the car was and would hold holiday overflow merchandise.

Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, permission was granted for Wal-Mart to place trailers near their garden center for holiday overflow.

MS. LOUISE A. WALTER, PRESIDENT; TALBOT COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE REQUESTING PERMISSION TO PLACE DISPLAY CALLED CEMETERY OF THE INNOCENTS ON THE GROUNDS OF IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH ON RT. 50 FOR ONE MONTH.

Ms. Walter stated that she had been instructed to get a permit for the sign and came before the Council but realizes she needs to go to Planning and Zoning so she will ask to be put on their agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. 560, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING THE TOWN OF EASTON ZONING ORDINANCE TO CREATE THE REGIONAL HEALTHCARE (RH) AND GOVERNMENTAL/INSTITUTIONAL (G/I) ZONING DISTRICTS."

Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, Ordinance No. 560 was approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 5953 AUTHORIZING ABATEMENT OF TAXES FOR TALBOT HOSPICE FOUNDATION, INC.

Upon motion by Mrs. Cook seconded by Mr. Wendowski and carried unanimously, Resolution No. 5953 was approved.

LETTER FROM MR. JOHN ATWOOD, CHAIRMAN FORWARD PLANNING COMMISSION'S ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

President Ford stated that the Comprehensive Plan was previously submitted to the Council. He stated that a work session with the Planning and Zoning Commission will be held November 9 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the Comprehensive Plan.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Mr. David Hopwood, S. Harrison Street, discussed the Airport extension workshop. He asked the Council what their position was on the extension.

Ms. Malone expressed concern that the survey developed by the URS corporation -for the airport's open house in August was flawed in that it prompted only two alternatives for people to vote on. There are actually six alternatives, and the one that would least impact quality of life for Easton particularly St. Aubin's Terrace was not one of the two included in the survey. Ms. Malone stated that she had called Mr. Henry airport manager to register a complaint. Ms. Malone indicated that the survey was manipulative. Ms. Malone stated that she believed her role was primarily to provide information to the public to address misconceptions and rumors about the airport.

President Ford stated that the council has not taken a position as a whole council.

ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Ms. Malone stated that Elm Street recently held a meeting with neighbors regarding Ashby Commons. She stated that they are moving forward with plans to develop the parcel but they will alter the original PUD.

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2 Mr. Wendowski stated that there will be a meeting with the Lakeland's developer at the community
3 center tomorrow night to discuss their PUD amendment request.
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5 Mrs. Cook stated there will be an East End Neighborhood dinner November 10 at 5:30 at the Asbury
6 Church.
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8 **CLOSED SESSION**
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10 At 7:46 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, President
11 Ford convened the regularly scheduled meeting into Executive Session to discuss personnel.
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13 **ADJOURNMENT**
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15 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously; President Ford
16 adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting at 7:59 p.m.
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19 Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk